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# INTELLIGENCER

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## Did Israel's President Once Recruit 'Informants' Here?

**F**IVE YEARS AGO, WILBUR Crane Eveland upset the CIA with a kiss-and-tell book, *Ropes of Sand*, which exposed, among other things, an abortive Syrian coup he said he helped finance as a top aide to agency boss Allen Dulles.

Now, in an upcoming work, he claims that Israeli

president Chaim Herzog recruited State Department staffers as Israeli informants back in 1954, when Herzog was Israeli defense attaché in Washington. Eveland declined to call the alleged recruits spies: "Israel is a friendly government, and they were passing on verbal information, not docu-

ments." The State Department, he added, disagreed and fired one recruit, "who later committed suicide."

Herzog "encouraged me to write the last book," said the author. "But he didn't know what I had in my files. This book will shake a few people up."

Herzog, Israel's first chief

of military intelligence, has denied involvement in any "recruitment of informants."

The CIA delayed publication of *Ropes*, but Eveland contended the agency won't have any control over this book, *Jerusalem the Golden*. "There's nothing in it I could have known only through the CIA," he said.